



UNIVERSE

36

RATED T TEEN
DCCOMICS.COM



HUMPHRIES
CHANG
MAIOLO

NIGHTWING



LEFT FOR DEAD!



CHANG
Maiole

Cold as Hell

SWAMP THING

WINTER SPECIAL

TM & © DC Comics.



DC
UNIVERSE

WRITTEN
BY

TOM KING AND LEN WEIN

ART
BY

JASON FABOK AND KELLEY JONES

JANUARY

NIGHTWING



HUMPHRIES
CHANG
MAIOLO



--AND
ALTHOUGH WE
ONCE WELCOMED
NIGHTWING,
THAT ERA IS
FINISHED!

ONE CASINO
DESTROYED IN HIS
SKIRMISHES IS
ONE TOO
MANY!

NIGHTWING
IS BAD FOR
BUSINESS!
HE IS BAD FOR
BLÜDHAVEN!

HOW'D
I DO? WHAT DID
YOU THINK ABOUT
THAT LAST
LINE--?



SURE,
OF COURSE, WE'LL
KEEP THE HEAT UP.
JUST LIKE YOU
SAID.

NO, I HAVEN'T
FORGOTTEN WHAT
YOU'VE DONE FOR ME. I
GREATLY APPRECIATE
IT. LORD KNOWS, I
APPRECIATE IT!



YES. NEXT, WE USE
THE COPS TO TAKE DOWN
NIGHTWING. HE'LL BE LONG
GONE, AND YOU'LL GET
YOUR SECOND
CASINO.

OKAY, I'LL
SEE YOU AT THE
SCHOOL OPENING,
TOMORROW. YES,
YOU CAN CUT THE
RIBBON.

MALLORY!
GET ME MY
CAR--!



MALLORY'S
GONE HOME.

WHO--?!



I GATHER
THEY CALL ME
THE JUDGE.

I SENT HER
AWAY SO WE
COULD HAVE A
CHAT, MAYOR
MADRIGAL.



GET THE HELL
OUT OF MY
OFFICE!



NOT UNTIL
I GET WHAT
I NEED.

THAT'S
THE DEAL.



I'M HIT.

GUNSHOT
TO THE
SHOULDER.

REMEMBER
WHAT THEY
TAUGHT YOU.

BREATHE.
FOCUS.

FIND YOUR
TARGET.

MUST BE THE
MACHINATIONS
OF THE JUDGE.

TRYING
TO--OOF--
SIDELINE ME.
I'M WOOLY.

VITALS
CRASHING...

BLACKING
OUT...

NO.

I WON'T BE
SIDELINED.

DETECTIVE
SVOBODA
PULLED THE
TRIGGER.

BUT SHE'S A
GOOD COP.

FWEEEE

GAAAAGH!

CASINO

I WON'T BE STOPPED.

YOU SAID EVEN SHARES.

PAUL. I DID THE THING.

I PULLED THE SAFE UP FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE HARBOR.

FOUR GUYS, THAT'S FOUR SHARES, EVEN. LIKE YOU SAID.

PAUL, PLEASE. MY DAD, HE NEEDS HIS MEDS--YOU KNOW HOW BIG PHARMA LIKES TO SQUEEZE THE LITTLE GUY. HA HA.

PAUL, PLEASE, I NEED--

DAMN IT.

SHUT UP, GUPPY.

ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR SHARES, PAUL! I'M NOT STUPID!

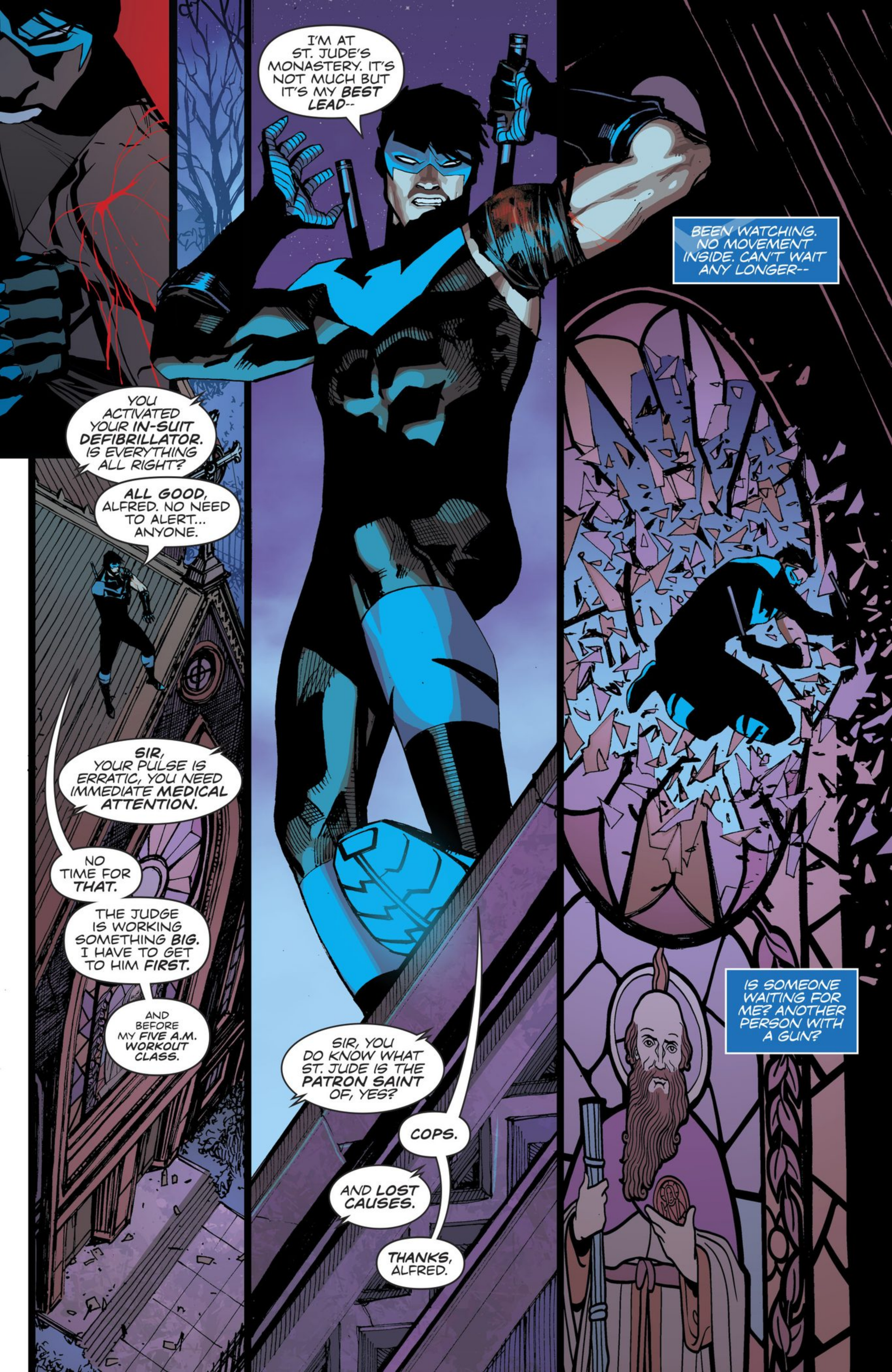
FOUR GUYS, FOUR SHARES. BUT I GOT THREE GUYS--

HAHAHAHA!

--AND WHATEVER THE HELL YOU ARE.

BYE-BYE, YA BARNACLE.

"MASTER DICK?"



I'M AT ST. JUDE'S MONASTERY. IT'S NOT MUCH BUT IT'S MY BEST LEAD--

BEEN WATCHING. NO MOVEMENT INSIDE. CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER--

YOU ACTIVATED YOUR IN-SUIT DEFIBRILLATOR. IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?

ALL GOOD, ALFRED. NO NEED TO ALERT... ANYONE.

SIR, YOUR PULSE IS ERRATIC, YOU NEED IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION.

NO TIME FOR THAT.

THE JUDGE IS WORKING SOMETHING BIG. I HAVE TO GET TO HIM FIRST.

AND BEFORE MY FIVE A.M. WORKOUT CLASS.

SIR, YOU DO KNOW WHAT ST. JUDE IS THE PATRON SAINT OF, YES?

COPS.

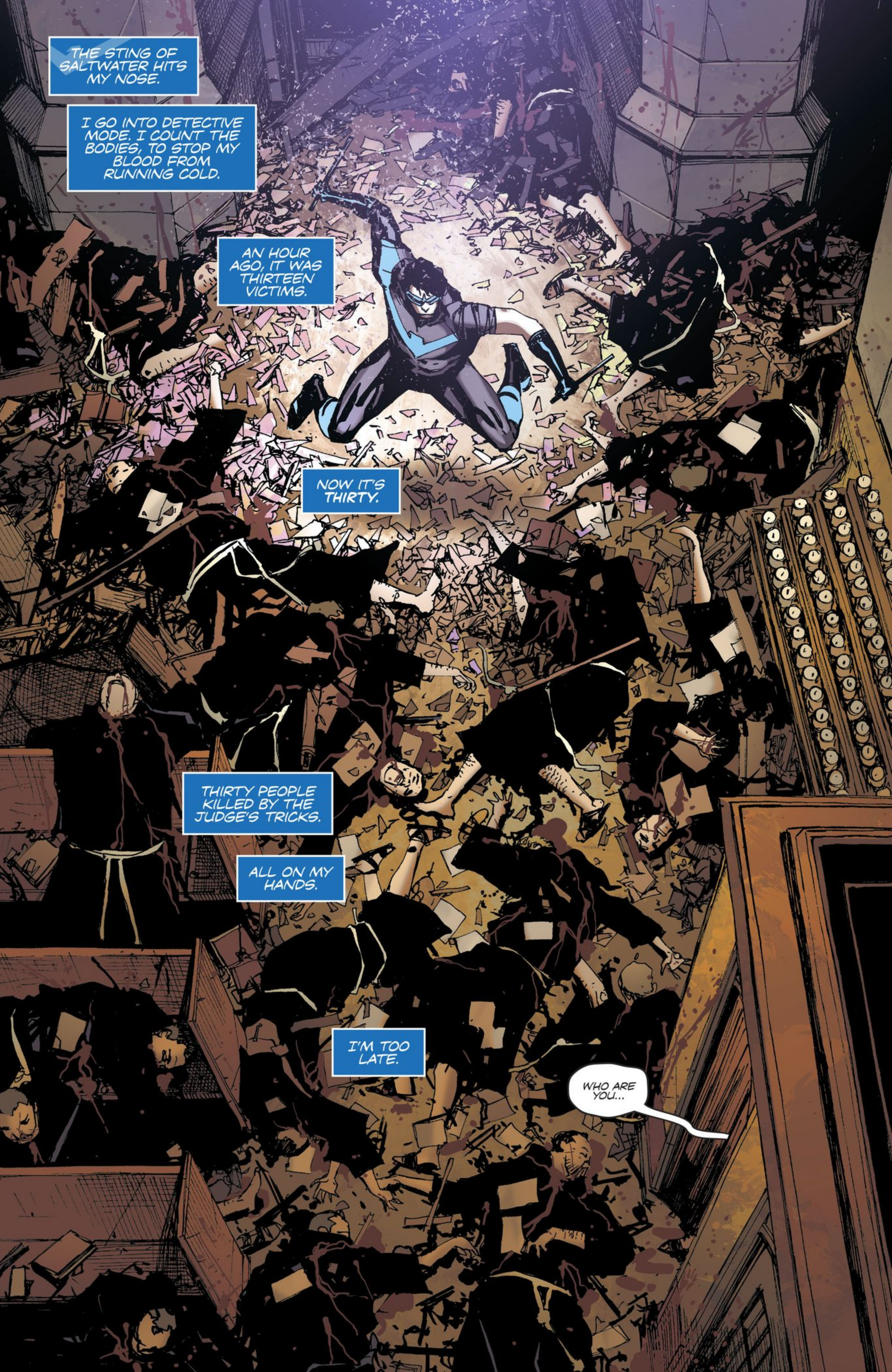
AND LOST CAUSES.

THANKS, ALFRED.



IS SOMEONE WAITING FOR ME? ANOTHER PERSON WITH A GUN?





THE STING OF
SALTWATER HITS
MY NOSE.

I GO INTO DETECTIVE
MODE. I COUNT THE
BODIES, TO STOP MY
BLOOD FROM
RUNNING COLD.

AN HOUR
AGO, IT WAS
THIRTEEN
VICTIMS.

NOW IT'S
THIRTY.

THIRTY PEOPLE
KILLED BY THE
JUDGE'S TRICKS.

ALL ON MY
HANDS.

I'M TOO
LATE.

WHO ARE
YOU...



I HAVE TO
BE FASTER.

NEW SCHOOL
OPENING TOMORROW,
MAYOR? SOUNDS FUN.
SAY, YOU SEND YOUR
KIDS TO PRIVATE
SCHOOL, DON'T
YOU?

HOW THE
HELL DID YOU
GET IN MY
OFFICE?!

I'M JUST
GOOD AT MAKING
FRIENDS, MR. MAYOR.
WHAT CAN I SAY, I'VE
BEEN AT IT A LONG
TIME!

I CAN
BE A FRIEND
TO YOU,
TOO.



"YOUR LIMO DRIVER,
JAY JAY? GREAT
GUY. HE TOLD ME
YOUR SCHEDULE.



"SUZETTE, SECURITY
DOWNSTAIRS, SHE
SWIPED ME IN THE
FRONT DOOR.

"YOU EVER
TALK TO HER?
SO FUNNY.

BLUDHAVEN
CITY HALL
SECURITY



"YOUR CHIEF OF STAFF,
MALLORY? SMART.
BIG FUTURE.

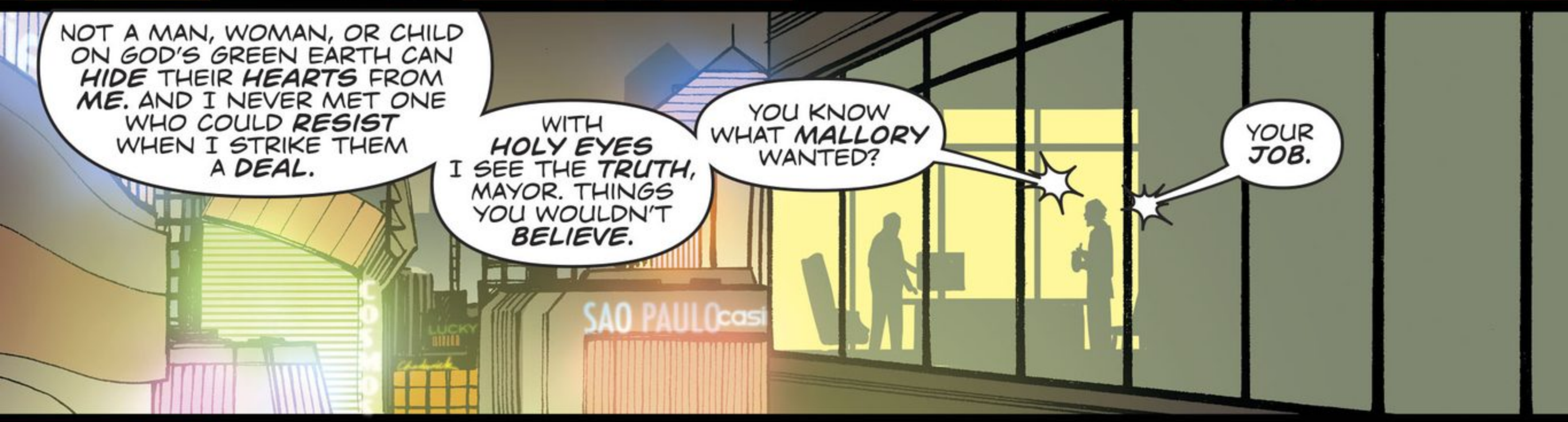
"SHE CLEARED
THE OFFICE
FOR ME."



I-I'll call SECURITY--

DON'T BOTHER. WE'RE ALONE.

ALL I HAD TO DO... WAS OFFER THEM THE **ONE** THING THEY REALLY, REALLY, REALLY WANTED.



NOT A MAN, WOMAN, OR CHILD ON GOD'S GREEN EARTH CAN **HIDE** THEIR **HEARTS** FROM ME. AND I NEVER MET ONE WHO COULD **RESIST** WHEN I STRIKE THEM A **DEAL**.

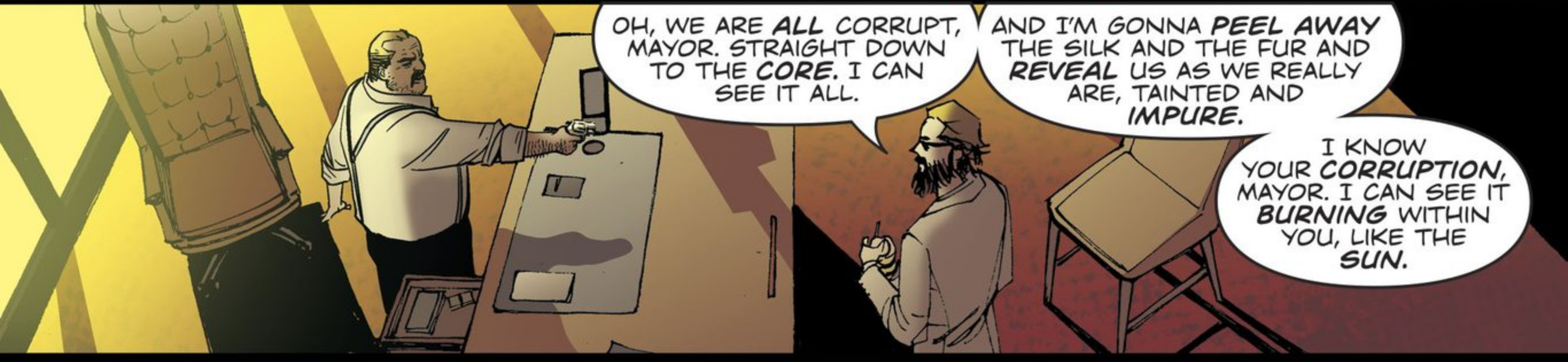
WITH **HOLY EYES** I SEE THE **TRUTH**, MAYOR. THINGS YOU WOULDN'T **BELIEVE**.

YOU KNOW WHAT **MALLORY** WANTED?

YOUR **JOB**.



ENOUGH! YOU... **C-CON** ARTIST!



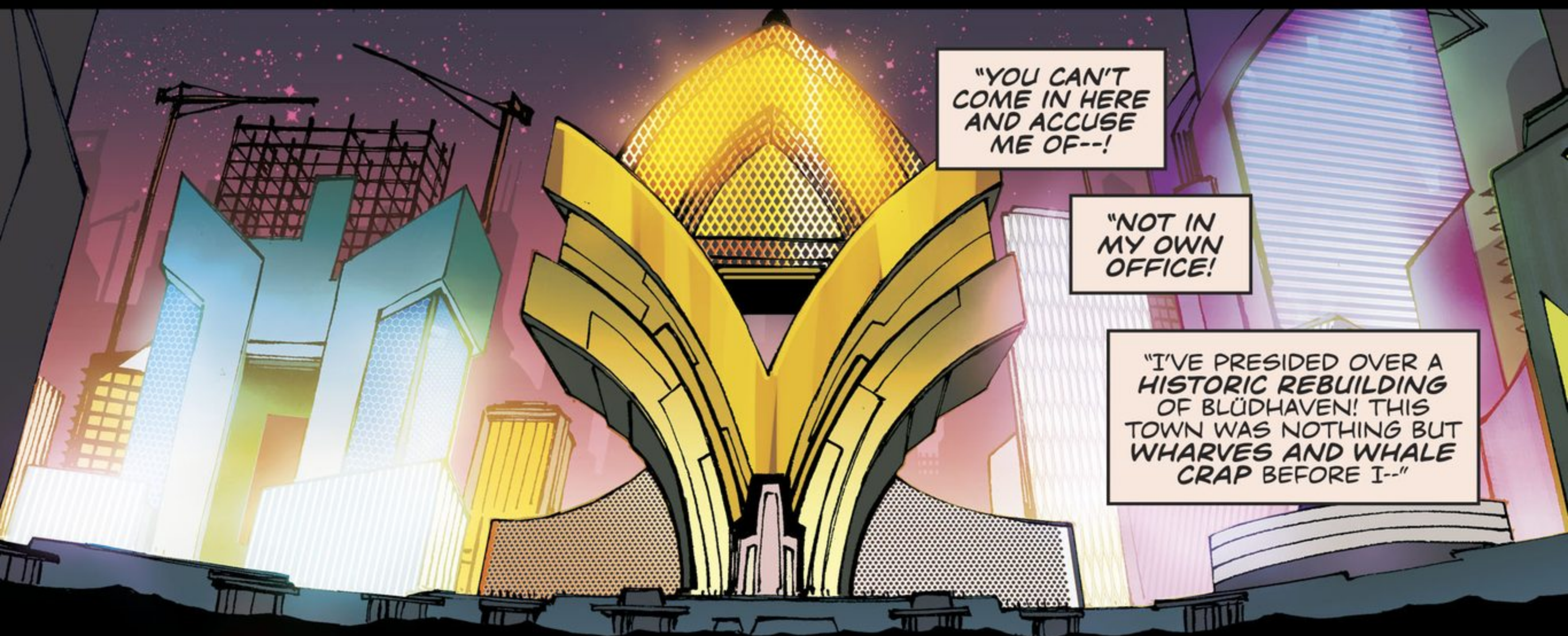
OH, WE ARE **ALL** **CORRUPT**, MAYOR. STRAIGHT DOWN TO THE **CORE**. I CAN SEE IT **ALL**.

AND I'M GONNA **PEEL** AWAY THE **SILK** AND THE **FUR** AND **REVEAL** US AS WE **REALLY** ARE, **TAINTED** AND **IMPURE**.

I KNOW YOUR **CORRUPTION**, MAYOR. I CAN SEE IT **BURNING** WITHIN YOU, LIKE THE **SUN**.



YOU'VE BEEN **ROBBING** THE **BLÜDHAVEN** **SCHOOL** DISTRICT **BLIND**.



"YOU CAN'T
COME IN HERE
AND ACCUSE
ME OF--!"

"NOT IN
MY OWN
OFFICE!"

"I'VE PRESIDED OVER A
HISTORIC REBUILDING
OF BLÜDHAVEN! THIS
TOWN WAS NOTHING BUT
WHARVES AND WHALE
CRAP BEFORE I--"



AND
EVERYONE GOT
RICH OFF THE
CASINOS.

BUT **SOME**
GOT RICHER THAN
OTHERS, ISN'T
THAT RIGHT?



I WANT
YOU TO G-GET
THE HELL
OUT.

NO,
YOU **DON'T**.
YOU WANT THAT
BLACK CLOUD
INSIDE YOU TO
GO AWAY. YOU
WANT TO BE
FREE.



YOU
DON'T WANT
TO BE MAYOR
ANYMORE.

WH-WHAT?

"BIG KAHUNA,"
THE MONK SAID.

SO HERE
I AM.

THE BLÜDHAVEN
TIKI DISTRICT.

WHERE A REGULAR
HOOD CAN MIX WITH
SUPER-VILLAIN
WANNABES.

I LEFT THE COPS
TO CLEAN UP AT THE
MONASTERY. ALL
RECORDS RELATING TO
THE MONK KNOWN AS
"LEARNED HAND" WERE
DESTROYED.

A PSEUDONYM,
OBTAINING. LEARNED
HAND WAS A FAMOUS
AMERICAN LEGAL
SCHOLAR.

A JUDGE.

I'M GRATEFUL
TO HAVE
SOMETHING
TO PUNCH.

TALL MAN,
WHITE SUIT,
BEARD!

STOP! I
DON'T KNOW!
I SWEAR--!

THE PAIN FROM
MY GUNSHOT
WOUND.

I CAN BARELY
SEE STRAIGHT.

TALL MAN,
WHITE SUIT,
BEARD!

HIS
INTENTION,
I'M SURE.

THAT'S WHY HE HAD
DETECTIVE SVOBODA
SHOOT ME.

TO SLOW
ME DOWN.

BUT I DON'T
STOP FOR
ANYTHING.

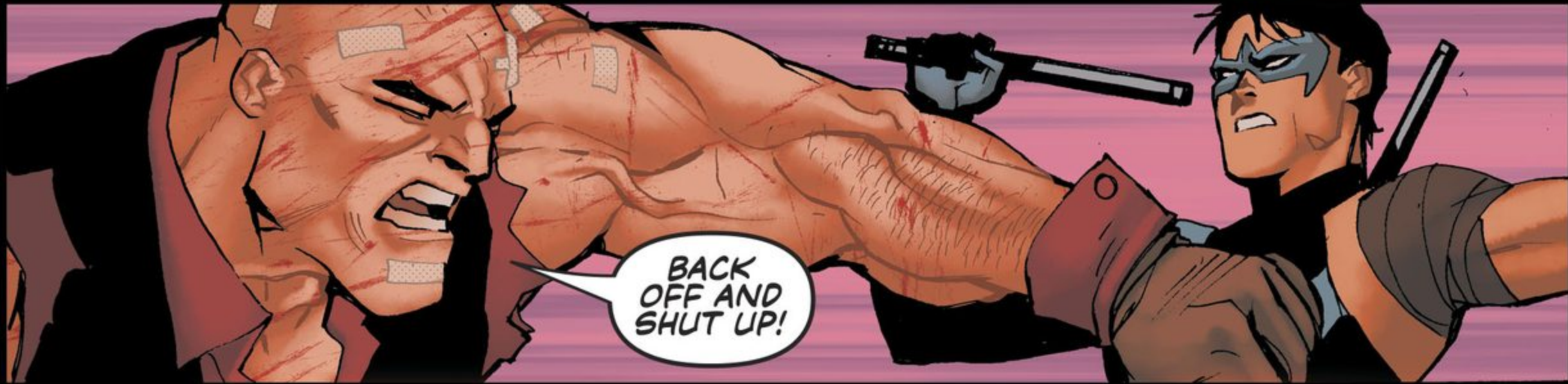


I KNOW YOU. ROBBIE.
LEAGUE OF LIMOUSINE
ASSASSINS.

MAYBE YOUR LAWYER
GOT YOU OUT ON BAIL.
BUT HE CAN'T HELP YOU
IN THE HOSPITAL--

NOT EVER.

I DON'T
KNOW, SO
DON'T ASK.



BACK
OFF AND
SHUT UP!



TALL
MAN!

KRAK



WHITE
SUIT--

OKAY, OKAY,
I SEEN HIM! WITH JAY
JAY. BUT HE DISAPPEARED,
AND TOOK OUR WHEELS.
THAT'S AGAINST LEAGUE
CODE. THEY WAS AT TIKI
DEL'S TOGETHER.



"I SAW MR. WHITE
SUIT HAND JAY JAY...
A CASINO CHIP."

"WHAT ELSE DOES
JAY JAY DO...WHEN
HE'S NOT HELPING
LITTLE OLD LADIES?"

"HE'S BEEN
'UNDERCOVER.'
INFILTRATING
A TARGET. CAPITAL
TRANSPORTATION."



THEY'VE
GOT THE CITY
GOVERNMENT
ACCOUNT.

HE'S AT
CITY HALL.

THE
REASON...

THE ONLY
REASON THE FEDS
ALLOW GAMBLING IN
BLÜDHAVEN IS BECAUSE
TEN PERCENT OF THE
TAKE GOES TO THE
EDUCATION FUND.

WELL, THAT
WENT OUT THE
WINDOW. DAY
ONE.

THE
CASINOS
WERE NOT
HAVING IT.

SO I'VE BEEN SCAMMING
THE NUMBERS HERE IN
CITY HALL, THE CASINOS
KEEP THEIR MONEY,
AND...

YOU,
UH, WANT
SOME OF
THIS?

THANKS
BUT NO THANKS.
I'M GOOD WITH
MY BLUE
HAWAIIAN.

AND THE
SCHOOLS?

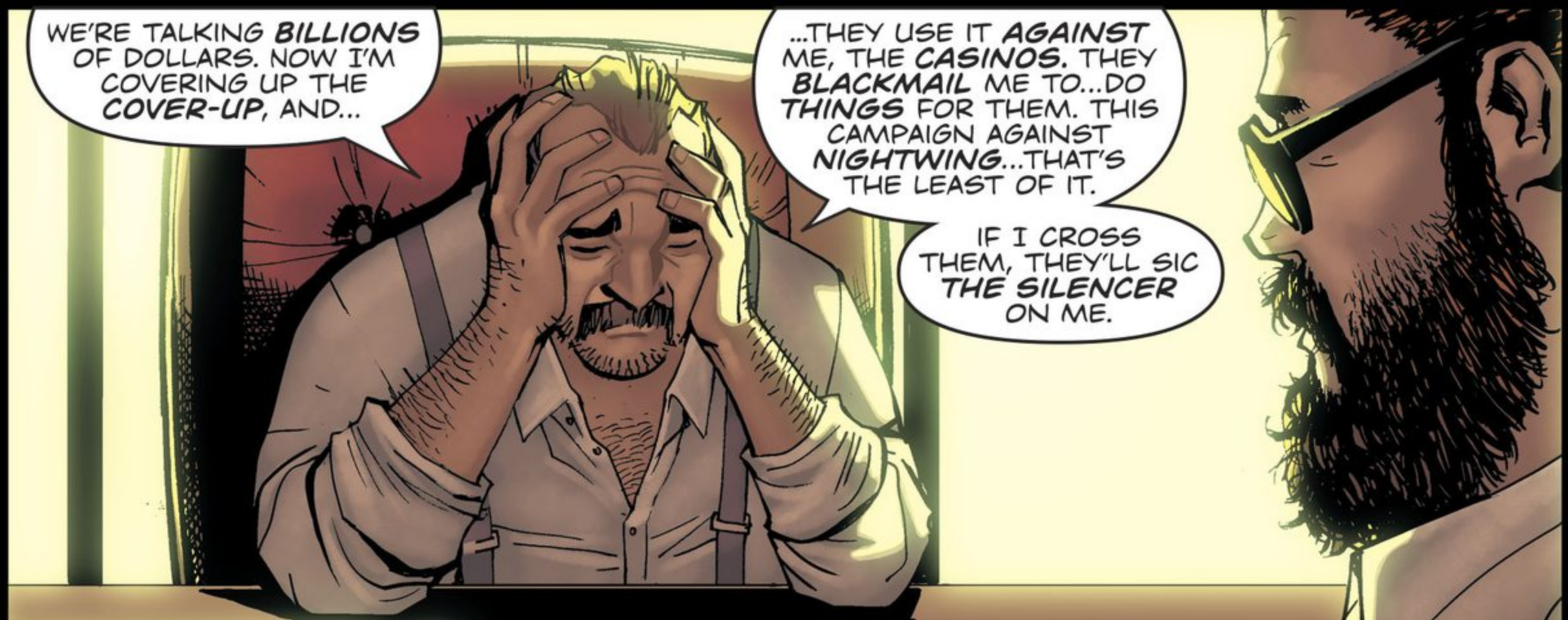
SNFFFFF

THEY VOTED ME MAYOR OF
THE YEAR! BLÜDHAVEN'S
NEON REVOLUTION,
THEY CALLED IT.

I CONFESS!
IT WAS FUN! WE
GOT ONE OVER ON
THE FEDS!

I THOUGHT ONCE THE
GAMBLING WAS UP AND
RUNNING, THE CASINOS
WOULD RELAX. GIVE
BACK TO THE
SCHOOLS.

WRONG.



WE'RE TALKING **BILLIONS** OF DOLLARS. NOW I'M COVERING UP THE **COVER-UP**, AND...

...THEY USE IT **AGAINST** ME, THE **CASINOS**. THEY **BLACKMAIL** ME TO...DO **THINGS** FOR THEM. THIS **CAMPAIGN** AGAINST **NIGHTWING**...THAT'S THE LEAST OF IT.

IF I **CROSS** THEM, THEY'LL SIC THE **SILENCER** ON ME.



I THOUGHT I COULD CONTROL THE **CASINOS**... I'M THE **MAYOR**, RIGHT?

EVERY DAY I WAKE UP, I WONDER, "IS THIS THE DAY I GET CAUGHT?"

I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE.



EASY NOW, MAYOR. I'M HERE TO TELL YOU--THERE IS **HOPE** ON THE **HORIZON**.

I CAN GIVE YOU **EXACTLY** WHAT YOU WANT. I CAN SHOW YOU HOW TO BE **FREE**.

BUT YOU HAVE TO DO SOMETHING FOR ME.

WH-WHAT?



YOU HAVE TO **CONFESS**.

TO **EVERYTHING**.

THAT'S THE **DEAL**, MAYOR **ERNEST** **MADRIGAL**.



"WHAT DO YOU SAY?"

POPS!



IT'S ME, POPS.
I'M HOME.
I, UH...

EVERY-
THING WENT
GREAT WITH THE
JOB. PAUL AND
THEM.



I THINK
THEY LOOK
UP TO ME.

BROUGHT
YOU THE CATCH
OF THE DAY.
FRESH FROM THE
HARBOR.



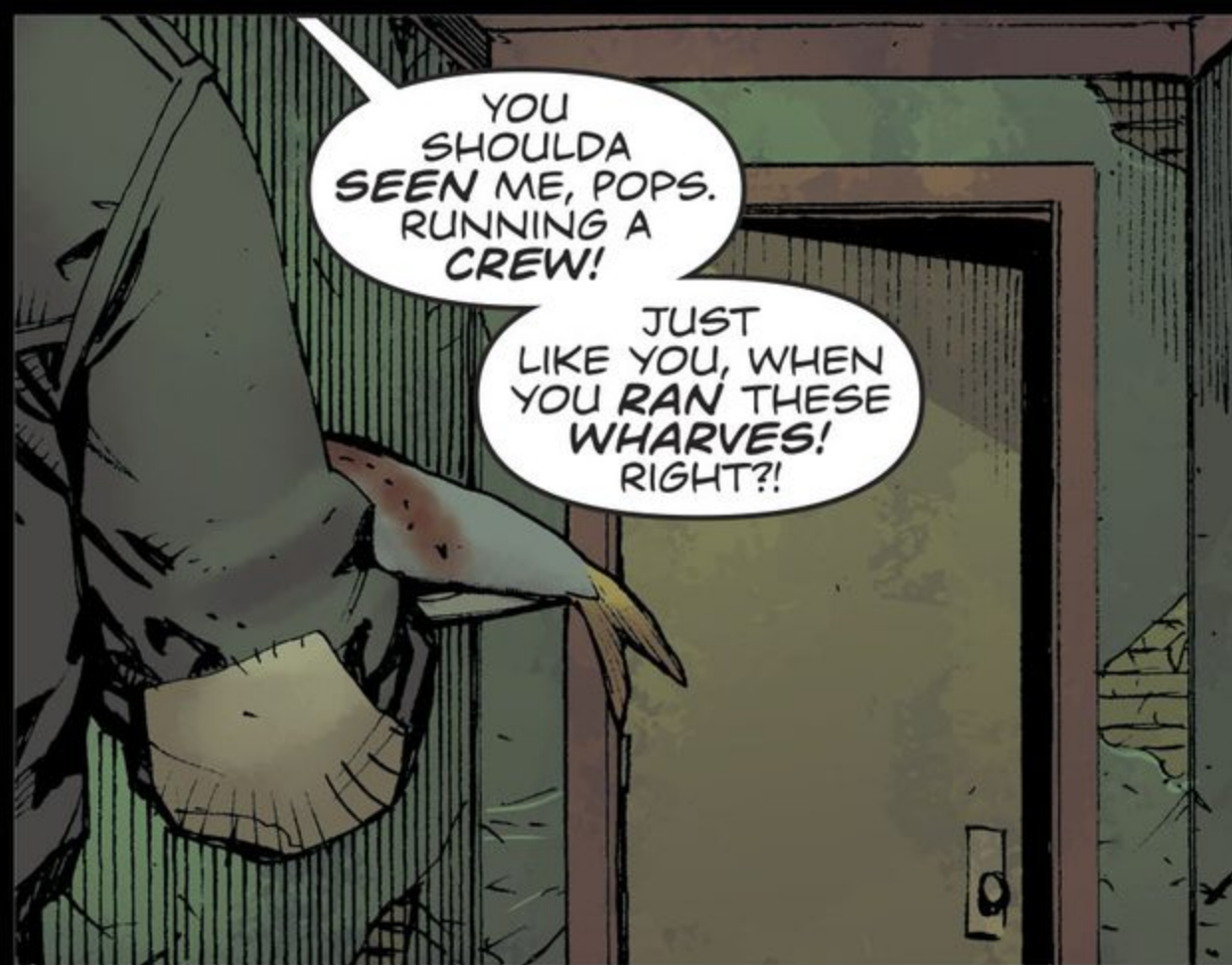
KEEP...
KEEP YOUR
STRENGTH
UP.

POPS,
UH...



I'M REAL SORRY BUT
I COULDN'T GET YOUR
MEDS. IT TOOK SO LONG
SPLITTING UP THE
TAKE, AND UH...

THE
PHARMACY
CLOSED.



YOU
SHOULDA
SEEN ME, POPS.
RUNNING A
CREW!

JUST
LIKE YOU, WHEN
YOU RAN THESE
WHARVES!
RIGHT?!



POPS?

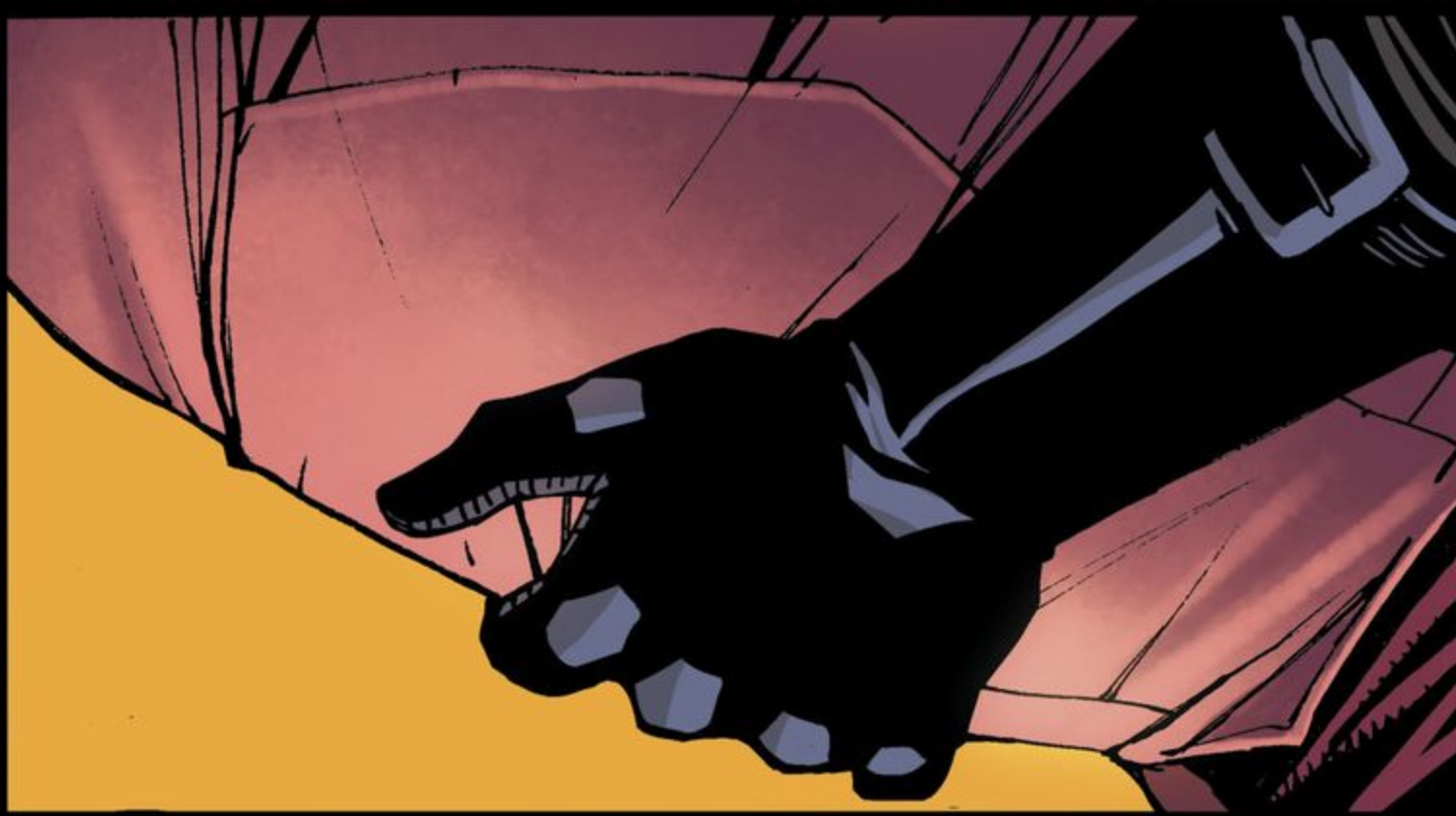
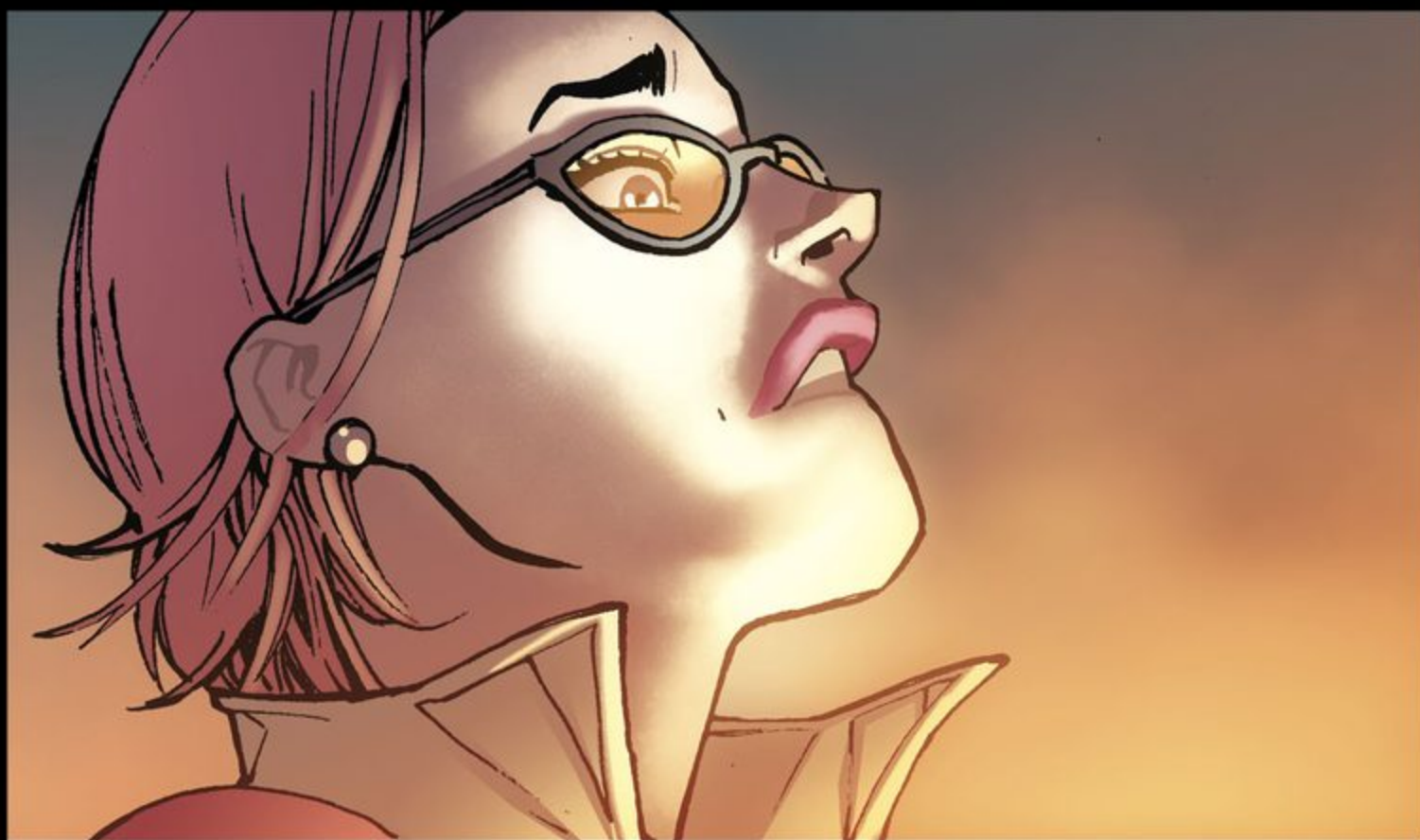
HEY. CAN
YOU HEAR
ME?



I KNOW.
IT HURTS REAL
BAD.

I'LL GET
YOU THE MEDS
TOMORROW,
POPS...

"...I PROMISE."





A full-page comic book illustration. Nightwing stands in the center, looking down at a crime scene. He has two pistols holstered on his back and holds a glowing yellow orb in his right hand. In the foreground, a man lies face down on a wooden floor, with a pool of blood and a handgun nearby. To the right is a large, glowing pineapple. The background shows a doorway with blood splatters on the wall.

--I'M TOO
LATE.

AGAIN.

I FAILED TO
STOP HIM WHEN
I WAS ROBIN.

I FAILED TO STOP
HIM WHEN I WAS
DICK GRAYSON.

AND NOW
I'M FAILING AS
NIGHTWING.

FAILURE IS
DEATH.

THIRTY-ONE
MURDERS.

ALL ON ME.

BLÜDHAVEN IS IN SHOCK
THIS MORNING FROM
THE APPARENT SUICIDE
OF MAYOR MADRIGAL...



...AND THE BOMBSHELL HE LEFT BEHIND.

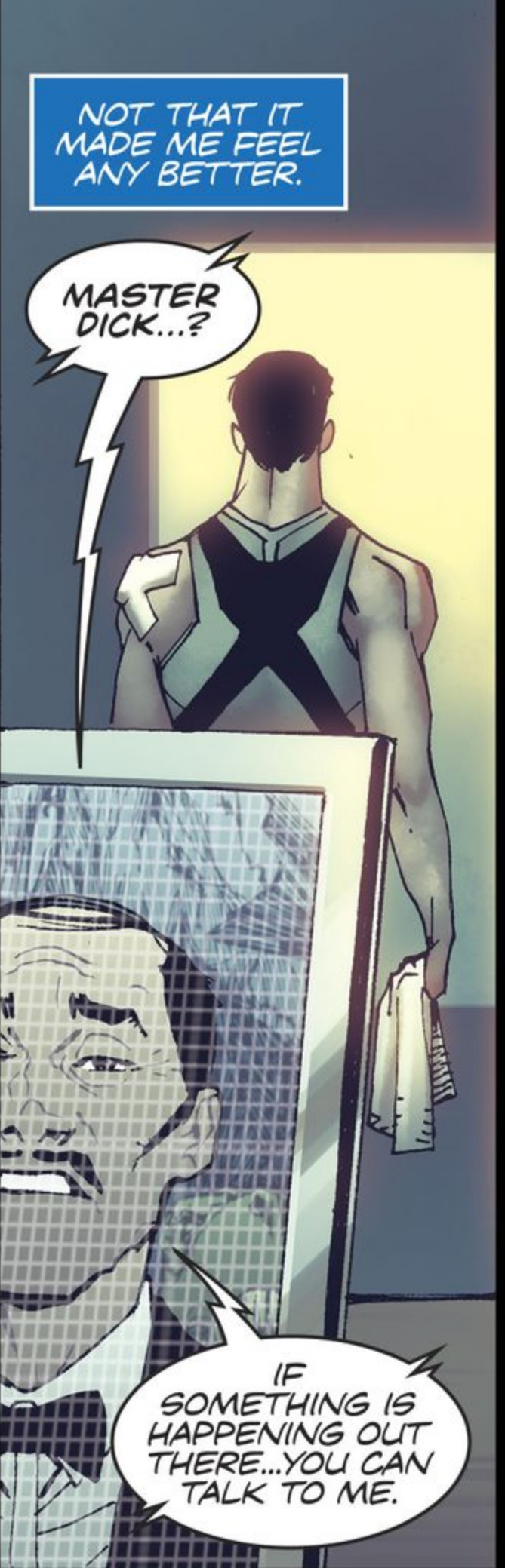
CORRUPTION AND EMBEZZLEMENT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS.

I MADE IT TO MY FIVE A.M. CLASS.



WITH JUST ENOUGH TIME FOR STITCHES.

--FINISH WITH A DOUBLE OVERHAND KNOT.



NOT THAT IT MADE ME FEEL ANY BETTER.

MASTER DICK...?

IF SOMETHING IS HAPPENING OUT THERE...YOU CAN TALK TO ME.



YO, THAT SHOULDER LOOKS TERRIBLE, BRO.

SO YOU'LL WORK OUT TWICE AS HARD FOR ME.

THE DOCUMENTS E-MAILED TO US EARLY THIS MORNING BY THE MAYOR INDICATE--



--WIDESPREAD CORRUPTION BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE CASINOS. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS QUICK TO RESPOND--



THE CASINOS ARE ALL WE GOT.

THIS IS NAAAAHT GOOD.



ALL CASINO AND GAMBLING OPERATIONS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF BLÜDHAVEN ARE SHUT DOWN UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

HIT ME--QUICK!



MY FEAR WAS
THAT THE JUDGE
WOULD KILL, AND
DISAPPEAR.

JUST LIKE THE
TIME BEFORE,
AND THE TIME
BEFORE THAT.

THE UNTOUCHABLE

CHAPTER 2: RELENTLESS



BUT NOW
I KNOW IT'S
WORSE.

SAM HUMPHRIES Writer • **BERNARD CHANG** Artist
MARCELO MAIOLO Colors • **CARLOS M. MANGUAL** Letters
CHANG & MAIOLO Cover • **YASMINE PUTRI** Variant Cover
BRIAN CUNNINGHAM Group Editor • **ROB LEVIN** Associate Editor
CHRIS CONROY Editor

NIGHTWING created by MARV WOLFMAN & GEORGE PÉREZ



HE'S HERE
TO KILL.

AND HE'S
HERE TO STAY.

NEXT: RUTHLESS!



SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW

From the pages of
DARK NIGHTS: METAL

**TONY S.
DANIEL
ROBERT
VENDITTI**

**THERE'S
A NEW SMASH
IN TOWN!**

DAMAGE

A new monthly series
JANUARY





LET
LOOSE,
ETHAN.

I JOINED
THE ARMY TO
BECOME A
SOLDIER!



I DON'T
WANT TO
BE THIS!

THEIR
CHAINS
WON'T HOLD
YOU.



NOT
THIS!

NOTHING
CAN.



IT'S
HOW THEY
MADE
YOU.

RRRUNNN!



THEY
WANTED
DAMAGE.

RFGG



GRRRAAAAAHHH

GIVE
THEM...



01:00:00



DAMAGE

GRRAA

DC PROUDLY PRESENTS

OUT OF CONTROL (PART 1)

LET LOOSE

00:59.56

STORYTELLERS: TONY S. DANIEL & ROBERT VENDITTI
INKER: DANNY MIKI COLORIST: TOMEU MOREY
LETTERER: TOM NAPOLITANO COVER: DANIEL, MIKI AND MOREY
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: JESSICA CHEN EDITOR: MIKE COTTON
DAMAGE CREATED BY ROBERT VENDITTI AND TONY S. DANIEL





00:59.47



MRRRRAAAAA



COLONEL JONAS TO STORK-1!

MAJOR LIGGETT! REPORT!



DAMAGE IS OFF THE LEASH, COLONEL!

WE WON'T MAKE IT TO THE BURROW!

REPEAT: DAMAGE IS OFF THE LEASH!

DEPLOY INTERCEPT TEAM!



EJECT AND GET CLEAR, MAJOR!

ADDITIONAL ASSETS ARE INBOUND!

STORK-1 IS GOING DOWN! INTERCEPT TEAM IS NO-GO!

I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN GET TO THE ARMOR!



ARMOR DEPLOYED!

I'LL BAG HIM, COLONEL!

STAND DOWN, MAJOR!

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO INTERCEPT DAMAGE ALONE!



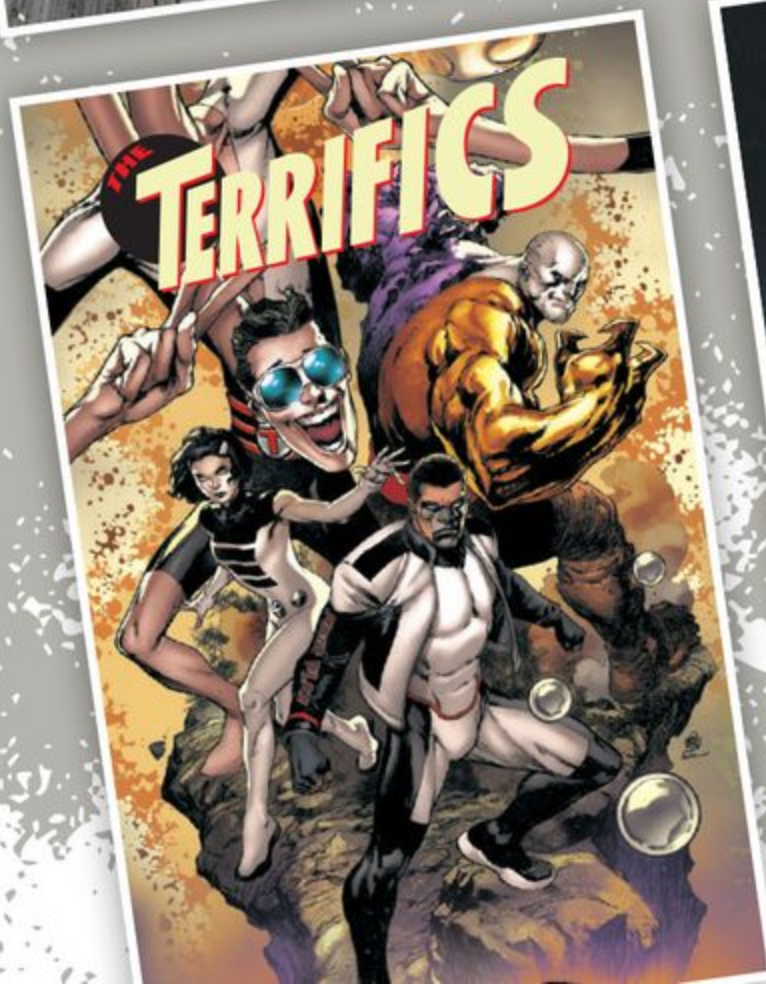


TO BE CONTINUED IN

DAMAGE #1

ON SALE IN JANUARY





**COMING
SOON**

DAMAGE

**THE
SILENCER**

SIDEWAYS

**THE
TERRIFICS**

**THE
IMMORTAL
MEN**

**THE CURSE
OF BRIMSTONE**

**NEW
CHALLENGERS**

**THE
UNEXPECTED**



From the pages of
DARK NIGHTS: METAL

SIDEWAYS

A DC ALL ACCESS interview with co-writer **JUSTIN JORDAN**

DC ALL ACCESS: What makes this character different from more traditional characters in the DC Universe?

JUSTIN JORDAN: He's not connected to any kind of legacy. That's not a knock on the legacy aspect of the DC Universe. The families and traditions of superheroes are some of my favorite things. Derek grew up watching the heroes of the DC Universe, but he isn't part of their family or connected to them. The story is like, what if a DC fan ended up in the DC Universe? He's sort of an outsider to all that and so we get to see the superhero world from a different perspective.

DCAA: What aspect of your personality did you inject into this character?

JJ: Derek very much has my sense of humor. Well, a version of it—my actual sense of humor can be very dark in a way Derek's is not.

DCAA: Why is working on this project exciting?

JJ: For me, I'm doing two things I haven't done much of: I'm writing plot style and I'm co-writing. Doing that has been super fun. Plus, the opportunity to build a new part of the DC Universe ranks pretty high on the excitement scale.

DCAA: Was it more fun creating this new character versus working on the iconic DC characters?

JJ: I wouldn't say more fun, but it's definitely different. Getting to work on the iconic characters is fun, but you're always trying to live up to this ideal version of the character you constructed in your head from when you read them. On something like SIDEWAYS, you get the fun of doing something brand new.

DCAA: Why should a reader pick up this book (in 12 words or fewer)?

JJ: I only need three: Kenneth Rocafort art.

DCAA: What was the collaboration process with artist Kenneth Rocafort like?

JJ: Kenneth has been killing it. I think, and I may be biased, that this is some career best work from him. It's been great and we haven't even gotten to the really trippy stuff yet.



**ISSUE #1 ON SALE
FEBRUARY**

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